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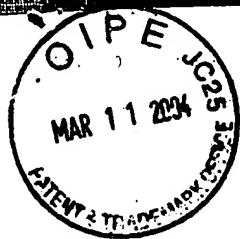
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**WEBSTER'S**  
**Ninth New**  
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**Dictionary**

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ther, *disinterested* has developed a sense (1b), perhaps influenced by sense 1 of the prefix *dis-*, that contrasts with *uninterested* (when I grow tired or *disinterested* in anything, I experience a disgust — Jack London, letter, 1914). Still, use of senses 1a and 1b will incur the disapproval of some who may not fully appreciate the history of this word or the subtleties of its present use.

**dis-in-ter-me-dia-tion** \dis-int-ər-mē-dē-ā-shən\ *n* (1967): the diversion of savings from accounts with low fixed interest rates to direct investment in high-yielding instruments

**dis-in-tox-i-cate** \dis-n-'tāk-sə-'kāt\ *vt* (1985): DETOXYIFY 2 — **dis-in-tox-i-ca-tion** \-'tāk-sə-'kā-shən\ *n*

**dis-in-vest-ment** \dis-n-'ves(t)-mənt\ *n* (1936): consumption of capital

**dis-join** \(')dis-'join\ *vb* [ME *disjoynen*, fr. MF *desjoindre*, fr. L *disjungere*, fr. *dis-* + *jungere* to join — more at *YOKE*] *vt* (15c): to end the joining of ~ *vi*: to become detached

**dis-joint** \-'join\ *adj* [ME *disjoynit*, fr. MF *desjoynit*, pp. of *desjoindre*] (15c) 1 *obs*: DISJOINTED 1a 2: having no elements in common (~ mathematical sets)

**dis-joint** *vt* (15c) 1: to disturb the orderly structure or arrangement of 2: to take apart at the joints ~ *vi*: to come apart at the joints

**dis-joint-ed** *adj* (1586) 1 *a*: being thrown out of orderly function (a society) *b*: lacking coherence or orderly sequence (an incomplete and ~ history) 2: separated at or as if at the joint — **dis-joint-ed-ly** *adv* — **dis-joint-ed-ness** *n*

**dis-junct** \dis-'jʌŋ(k)\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *disjunctus*, pp. of *disjungere*, to disjoin] (15c): marked by separation of or from usu. contiguous parts or individuals: as *a*: DISCONTINUOUS *b*: relating to melodic progression by intervals larger than a major second — compare **CONJUNCT**

**dis-junct** \dis-'jʌŋ(k)\ *n* (1921): any of the alternatives that make up a logical disjunction

**dis-junc-tion** \dis-'jʌŋ(k)-shən\ *n* (15c) 1: a sharp cleavage: DISJUNCTION 2: the ~ between theory and practice 2: a compound sentence in logic formed by joining two simple statements by *or*; *a*: INCLUSIVE DISJUNCTION *b*: EXCLUSIVE DISJUNCTION

**dis-junctive** \-'jʌŋ(k)-tiv\ *adj* (15c) 1 *a*: relating to, being, or forming a logical disjunction *b*: expressing an alternative or opposition between the meanings of the words connected (the ~ conjunction *or*) *c*: expressed by mutually exclusive alternatives joined by *or* (~ pleading) 2: marked by breaks or disunity (a ~ narrative sequence) 3 of a pronoun form: stressed and not attached to the verb as an enclitic or proclitic — **dis-junctive-ly** *adv*

**dis-junctive** *n* (1530): a disjunctive conjunction

**dis-junc-ture** \-'jʌŋ(k)-chər\ *n* [ME, modif. (influenced by L *disjunctus*) of MF *desjuncture*, fr. *desjoynit* disjoin] (15c): DISJUNCTION 1

**disk** *or* **disc** \-'disk\ *n*, often attrib [L *discus* — more at *DISH*] (1664) 1 *a* *archaic*: DISCUS 1 *b*: the seemingly flat figure of a celestial body (the solar ~) 2: any of various rounded and flattened animal anatomical structures (as an intervertebral disk) — compare **SLIPPED DISK** 3: the central part of the flower head of a typical composite made up of closely packed tubular flowers 4: *a*: a thin circular object, *b* *usu* *disc*: a phonograph record *c*: a round flat plate coated with a magnetic substance on which data for a computer is stored, *d* *usu* *disc*: VIDEO DISC 5 *usu* *disc*: one of the concave circular steel tools with sharpened edge making up the working part of a disc harrow or plow; also: an implement employing such tools — **disk-like** \-'lik\ *adj*

**disk** *or* **disc** *vt* (1884) 1: to cultivate with an implement (as a harrow or plow) that turns and loosens the soil with a series of disks 2 *usu* *disc*: to record on a phonograph disc

**disk-kette** \dis-'ket, dis-'\ *n* (1973): FLOPPY DISK

**disk flower** *n* (1870): one of the tubular flowers in the disk of a composite plant — called also *disk floret*

**disk wheel** *n* (ca. 1909): a wheel presenting a solid surface from hub to rim

**dis-like-able** also **dis-like-able** \(')dis-'li-kə-bəl\ *adj* (1843): easy to dislike — **dis-like-able-ly** *adv*

**dis-like** \(')dis-'lik\ *n* (1577) 1: a feeling of aversion or disapproval 2 *obs*: DISCORD

**dislike** *vt* (1579) 1 *archaic*: DISPLEASE 2: to regard with dislike — **dislike-er** *n*

**dis-locate** \dis-'lōkət, -lō-\ *vt* [ML *dislocatus*, pp. of *dislocare*, fr. L *dis-* + *locare* to locate] (1605) 1: to put out of place; *specif*: to displace (a bone) from normal connections with another bone 2: DISRUPT

**dis-lo-ca-tion** \dis-'lōk-ā-shən, -lō-\ *n* [ME *dislocacioun*, fr. MF *dislocation*, fr. ML *dislocatus*, pp.] (15c): the act of dislocating; the state of being dislocated: as *a*: displacement of one or more bones at a joint: LUXATION *b*: a discontinuity in the otherwise normal lattice structure of a crystal *c*: disruption of an established order

**dis-lodge** \(')dis-'lāj\ *vb* [ME *disloggen*, fr. MF *desloger*, fr. *des-* + *loger* to lodge, fr. OF *loge* lodge] *vt* (15c) 1: to drive from a position of hiding, defense, or advantage 2: to force out of a secure or settled position (dislodged the rock with a shovel) ~ *vi*: to leave a lodging place — **dis-lodge-ment** *n*

**dis-lo-ly** \(')dis-'lōi(-ə)\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *desloial*, fr. OF, fr. *des-* + *loial* loyal] (15c): lacking in loyalty; manifesting an absence of allegiance, devotion, obligation; faith, or support (his ~ refusal to help his friend) *syn* see FAITHLESS — **dis-lo-ly-ly** \-'lōi(-ə)-lē\ *adv*

**dis-lo-ly-ty** \-'lōi(-ə)-lē\ *n* (15c): lack of loyalty

**dis-mal** \diz-'māl\ *adj* [ME, fr. *dismal*, *n*: days marked as unlucky in medieval calendars, fr. AF, fr. ML *dies mali*, lit. evil days] (15c) 1 *obs*: DISASTROUS, DREADFUL 2: showing or causing gloom or depression 3: lacking interest or merit — **dis-mal-ly** \-'māl-ē\ *adv* — **dis-mal-ness** *n*

**dis-man-tle** \(')dis-'mant-\ *vt* *dis-man-tled*; *dis-man-ting* \-'mant-ŋ-, -t-ŋ\ [MF *desmanteler*, fr. *des-* + *mantel* mantle] (1602) 1: to take to pieces 2: to strip of dress or covering: DIVEST 3: to strip of furniture and equipment — **dis-man-tle-ment** \-'mant-ŋ-'mənt\ *n*

**dis-mast** \(')dis-'māst\ *vt* (1747): to remove or break off the mast of

**dis-may** \dis-'mā, diz-\ *vi* *dis-mayed*; *dis-may-ing* [ME *dismayen*, fr. (assumed) OF *desmaier*, fr. OF *des-* + *-maier* (as in *esmaitier* to dismay), fr. (assumed) VL *-magare*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *magan* to be able — more at *MAY*] (13c): to deprive of courage, resolution,

and initiative through the pressure of sudden fear or anxiety or perplexity (~ed at the size of his adversary) — **dis-may-ing-ly** *adv*

*syn* DISMAY, APPALL, HORRIFY, DAUNT mean to unnervify or arousing fear, apprehension, or aversion. DISMAY implies that one is bafled and perplexed or at a loss as to how to deal with something. APPALL implies that one is faced with that which perturbs, shocks, or shocks; HORRIFY stresses a reaction of horror or revulsion; DAUNT suggests a cowering, subduing, disheartening, or frightening in a situation requiring courage.

**dismay** *n* (14c) 1: sudden loss of courage or resolution (from alarm or fear) 2: a sudden disappointment *b*: PERTURBATION

**disme** \dim\ *n* [obs. E; tenth; fr. obs. F; fr. MF *disme*, *dim* — more at *DIME*] (1792): a U.S. 10-cent coin struck in 1792

**dis-member** \(')dis-'mem-bər\ *vt* *dis-membered*; *dis-member-ing* \-'(ə-)ŋŋ\ [ME *dismembren*, fr. OF *dismembrer*, fr. *des-* + *membre* member] (13c) 1: to cut off or disjoin the limbs, members, or parts of 2: to break up or tear into pieces — **dis-member-ment** \-'(ə-)ŋŋ-'mənt\ *n*

**dis-miss** \dis-'mis\ *vt* [modif. of L *dimissus*, pp. of *mittere*, to send + *mittere* to send — more at *DIS-*, *SMITE*] (15c) 1: to permit or leave (~ed his visitor) 2: to remove from position of service

**dis-miss-al** \-'mis-əl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *desobediens*, fr. OF *desobediens* + *-al* to be of the nature of] (15c): the act of dismissing; the fact or act of being dismissed

**dis-mount** \dis-'maunt\ *vb* [prob. modif. of MF *desmonter*, fr. *des-* + *monter* to mount] *vi* (1579) 1 *obs*: DESCEND 2: to alight from an elevated position (as on a horse) ~ *vt* 1: to throw down or remove from a mount or an elevated position; *esp*: UNHORSE 2: DISASSEMBLE

**dis-mount** *n* (1654): the act of dismounting

**dis-ob-e-dience** \dis-ə-'bed-ē-ən(t)-s\ *n* (15c): refusal or neglect to obey

**dis-ob-e-dient** \-ənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *desobediens*, fr. OF *desobediens* + *-ent* to be of the nature of] (15c): refusing or neglecting to obey — **dis-ob-e-dient-ly** *adv*

**dis-obey** \dis-ə-'baɪ\ *vb* [ME *disobeyen*, fr. MF *desobeyr*, fr. OF *desobeyr* + *-obeyr* to obey] *vi* (14c): to be disobedient ~ *vt*: to fail to obey

**dis-obey-er** *n*

**dis-oblige** \dis-ə-'bliʒ\ *vi* [F *désobliger*, fr. MF, fr. *des-* + *obliger* to oblige] (1632) 1: to go counter to the wishes of 2: INCONVENIENCE

**dis-ol-dum phosphate** \dis-'sōd-ē-əm-\ *n* (ca. 1928): a sodium phosphate Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>

**dis-omic** \dis-'sō-mik\ *adj* [di- + *somic*] (1924): having one or more chromosomes present in twice the normal number but not having the entire genome doubled

**dis-or-der** \(')dis-'ord-ər, -diz-\ *vt* (15c) 1: to disturb the order of 2: to disturb the regular or normal functions of

**dis-order** *n* (1530) 1: lack of order (clothes in ~) 2: breach of the peace or public order (troubled times marked by social ~) 3: an abnormal physical or mental condition: AILMENT

**dis-or-der-ed** *adj* (1548) 1 *obs* 1: morally reprehensible *b*: UNLAWFUL 2: marked by disorder *b*: not functioning in a normal or healthy way — **dis-or-der-ed-ly** *adv* — **dis-or-der-ed-ness** *n*

**dis-or-der-ly** \-'ord-ər-lē\ *adv*, *archaic* (1564): in a disorderly manner

**dis-order-ly** (1585) 1: engaged in conduct offensive to public order (charged with being drunk and ~) 2: characterized by disorder (pile of clothes) — **dis-or-der-ly-ness** *n*

**dis-orderly conduct** *n* (1887): a petty offense chiefly against public order and decency that falls short of an indictable misdemeanor

**dis-orderly house** *n* [euphemism] (ca. 1877): BROTHEL

**dis-or-ga-nize** \(')dis-'or-gə-'niz\ *vi* [F *désorganiser*, fr. *des-* + *organiser* to organize] (1793): to destroy or interrupt the orderly structure or function of — **dis-or-ga-ni-za-tion** \dis-'org-ə-'nə-'zā-shən\ *n*

**dis-or-ga-nized** *adj* (1812): lacking coherence, system, or central organizing agency (~ work habits)

**dis-or-ient** \(')dis-'or-ē-ent, -'or-\ *vi* [F *désorienter*, fr. *des-* + *orienter* to orient] (1655) 1 *a*: to cause to lose bearings; displace from normal position or relationship *b*: to cause to lose the sense of time, place, or identity 2: CONFUSE

**dis-or-ien-tate** \dis-'or-ē-ent, -'en-\ *vt* (ca. 1727): DISORIENT — **dis-or-ien-ta-tion** \dis-'or-ē-ent-ā-shən, -'or-, -'en-\ *n*

**dis-own** \dis-'on\ *vi* (1649) 1: to refuse to acknowledge as one's own 2 *a*: to repudiate any connection or identification with *b*: to deny the validity or authority of — **dis-own-ment** \-'mānt\ *n*

**dis-par-age** \dis-'par-i-\ *vt* *aged*; *ag-ing* [ME *disparagen* to degrade by marriage below one's class; *disparage*, fr. MF *desparagier* to marry below one's class; fr. OF, fr. *des-* + *parage* extraction, lineage, *per* peer] (14c) 1: to lower in rank or reputation; DEGRADE 2: to depreciate by indirect means (as invidious comparison): speak slightly about *syn* see DECRY — **dis-par-age-ment** \-'ij-mānt\ *n* — **dis-par-ager** *n* — **dis-par-aging** *adj* — **dis-par-aging-ly** \-'ij-ŋ-ē\ *adv*

**dis-pa-rate** \dis-'par-ət, dis-(p-)rət\ *adj* [L *disparatus*, pp. of *disparare* to separate, fr. *dis-* + *parare* to prepare — more at *PARE*] (15c) 1: containing or made up of fundamentally different and often incongruous elements 2: markedly distinct in quality or character *syn* see DIFFERENT — **dis-pa-rat-ly** *adv* — **dis-pa-rat-ness** *n* — **dis-pa-rat-ty** \-'par-ət-ē\ *n*

**dis-part** \(')dis-'pärt\ *vb* [It & L; *It* *dispartire*, fr. L; fr. *dis-* + *partire* to divide — more at *PART*] *archaic* (1590): SEPARATE; DIVIDE

**dis-pas-sion** \(')dis-'pash-ən\ *n* (1692): absence of passion: COOLNESS

**dis-pas-sion-ate** \-ə-'nət\ *adj* (1594): not influenced by strong feeling; *esp*: not affected by personal or emotional involvement (a ~ critic) (a ~ approach to an issue) *syn* see FAIR — **dis-pas-sion-ate-ly** *adv* — **dis-pas-sion-ate-ness** *n*

**dis-patch** \dis-'pach\ *vb* [Sp *despachar* or It *dispiacciare*, fr. Prov. *despach* to get rid of, fr. MF *despechier* to set free, fr. OF, fr. *des-* + *pechier* (as in *empechier* to hinder) — more at *IMPEACH*] *vt* (1517) 1: to send off or away with promptness or speed *esp* on official business 2 *a*: to kill with quick efficiency *b* *obs*: DEPRIVE 3: to dispose of (as a task) rapidly or efficiently ~ *vi*, *archaic*: to make haste: HURRY *syn* see KILL — **dis-patch-er** *n*

**dispatch** *n* (1571) 1: the act of dispatching; as *a* *obs*: DISMISSAL *b*: the act of killing *c* (1): prompt settlement (as of an item of busi-

**dy-na-tron** \di-nə-trən\ *n* [Gk *dynamis* power] (1918): a vacuum tube decrease in the secondary emission of electrons from the plate results in a dyne \din\ *n* [F. fr. Gk *dynamis*] (1873): the unit of force in the centimeter-gram-second system equal to the force that would give a free second

**dy-node** \di-nod\ *n* [Gk *dynamis*] (1939): an electrode in an electron tube that functions to produce secondary emission of electrons

**Gk:** akin to OE *dis-* bad, difficult, fr. MF & L. MF *dis-* fr. L *dys-* fr. (dys)hidrosis 2: difficult (dys)phagia — compare EU. 3: impaired (dys)function 4: bad (dys)logic — compare EU. 3: impaired

**dys-ar-thria** \dis-är-thrē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *dys-* + *arthr-* + *-ia*] (1878): difficulty in articulating words due to disease of the central nervous system

**dys-cra-sia** \dis-kra-zh(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. ML, bad mixture of humors, fr. Gk *dyskrasia*, fr. *dys-* + *krasis* mixture, fr. *kerannynai* to mix — more at CRATER] (15c): an abnormal condition of the body

**dys-en-ter-ic** \dis-n-ter-ik\ *adj* (1727): of or relating to dysentery

**dys-en-ter-ia** \dis-n-ter-ē-ə\ *n*, *pl* -ter-ies [ME *dysenterie*, fr. L *dysenteria*, fr. Gk, fr. *dys-* + *enteron* intestine — more at INTER-] (14c): 1: a disease characterized by severe diarrhea, with passage of mucus and blood and usu. caused by infection 2: DIARRHEA

**dys-func-tion** \dis-fŭŋ(k)-shən\ *n* (ca. 1916): impaired or abnormal functioning — **dys-func-tion-al** \-shnəl, -shən-ē\ *adj*

**dys-gen-e-sis** \dis-jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL, (ca. 1883): defective development esp. of the gonads (as in Klinefelter's syndrome)]

**dys-gen-ic** \dis-jen-ik\ *adj* (1915) 1: tending to promote survival of or reproduction by less well-adapted individuals (as the weak or diseased) esp. at the expense of well-adapted individuals (as the strong or healthy) (the effect of war) 2: biologically defective or deficient

**dys-ki-ne-sia** \dis-kə-nē-zh(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *dyskinesia* difficulty in moving, fr. *dys-* + *-kinesis*, fr. *kinesis* motion, fr. *kinēin* to move — more at HIGHT] (ca. 1706): impairment of voluntary movements resulting in fragmented or jerky motions (as in Parkinson's disease) — compare TARDIVE DYSKINESIA — **dys-ki-net-ic** \-net-ik\ *adj*

**dys-lex-ia** \dis-lek-sē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *dys-* + Gk *lexis* word, speech, fr. *legō* to say — more at LEGEND] (ca. 1886): a disturbance of the ability to read — **dys-lex-ic** \-sik\ *adj* or *n*

**dys-to-gis-tic** \dis-tō-gis-tik\ *adj* **dys-** + *-logistic* (as in *eulogistic*) (1802): UNCOMPLEMENTARY — **dys-to-gis-tic-al-ly** \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*

**dys-men-or-rhea** \dis-men-ə-rē-ə\ *n* [NL, (ca. 1810): painful menstruation — **dys-men-or-rhe-ic** \-rē-ik\ *adj*

**dys-pep-sia** \dis-pep-shə, -sē-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *dys-* + *pepsis* digestion, fr. *peptin*, *pepsin* to cook, digest — more at COOK] (ca. 1706): INDIGESTION

**dys-pep-tic** \dis-pep-tik\ *adj* (1809) 1: relating to or having dyspepsia 2: showing a sour disposition — **dys-pep-tic-al-ly** \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*

**dys-ph-a-gia** \dis-fa-j(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL] (1783): difficulty in swallowing

**dys-ph-a-sia** \dis-fa-zh(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1883): loss of or deficiency in the power to use or understand language as a result of injury to or disease of the brain — **dys-ph-a-sic** \-fā-zik\ *n* or *adj*

**dys-pho-nia** \dis-fō-nē-ə\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1706): defective use of the voice

**dys-pho-ria** \dis-fō-rē-ə, -fōr-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *dysphoros* hard to bear, fr. *dys-* + *pherein* to bear — more at BEAR] (ca. 1842): a state of feeling unwell or unhappy — **dys-pho-ric** \-fōr-ik, -fār-ə\ *adj*

**dys-pla-sia** \dis-plā-zh(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1923): abnormal growth or development (as of organs or cells); broadly: abnormal anatomic structure due to such growth — **dys-pla-sic** \-plā-sik\ *adj*

**dys-pnea** \dis(p)-nē-ə\ *n* [L *dyspnoea*, fr. Gk *dyspnoia*, fr. *dyspnoos* short of breath, fr. *dys-* + *pnein*, to breathe — more at SNEEZE] (ca. 1681): difficult or labored respiration — **dys-pne-ic** \-nē-ik\ *adj*

**dyspnoea** chiefly Brit var of DYSPNEA

**dys-pro-sium** \dis-prō-zē-əm, -zh(ē)-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *dysprositos* hard to get at, fr. *dys-* + *prositos* approachable, fr. *prosinai* to approach, fr. *pros-* + *ienai* to go — more at ISSUE] (1886): an element of the rare earth group that forms highly magnetic compounds — see ELEMENT table

**dys-rhyth-mia** \dis-rith-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *dys-* + L *rhythmus* rhythm] (ca. 1909): an abnormal rhythm; esp.: a disordered rhythm exhibited in a record of electrical activity of the brain or heart — **dys-rhyth-mic** \-mik\ *adj*

**dys-to-pia** \dis-tō-pē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *dys-* + *-topia* (as in *utopia*)] (ca. 1950) 1: an imaginary place which is depressingly wretched and where people lead a fearful existence 2: ANTI-UTOPIA 2 — **dys-to-pi-an** \-pē-ən\ *adj*

**dys-to-phic** \dis-tō-fik\ *adj* (1893) 1 a: relating to or caused by faulty nutrition b: relating to or affected with a dystrophy (a ~ patient) 2 of a lake: brownish with much dissolved humic matter, a sparse bottom fauna, and a high oxygen consumption

**dys-tro-phy** \dis-trō-fē\ *n*, *pl* -phies [NL *dystrophia*, fr. *dys-* + *-trophia* -trophy] (ca. 1901) 1: a condition produced by faulty nutrition 2: any myogenic atrophy; esp.: MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

**dys-uria** \dis-(y)ūr-ē-ə, dis-yūr-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *dysouria*, fr. *dys-* + *-ouria* -uria] (14c): difficult or painful discharge of urine

E

e \ē\ *n*, *pl* e's or es \ēz\ often cap, often attrib 1 a

the 5th letter of the English alphabet b: a graphic representation of this letter c: a speech counterpart of orthographic e 2: the 3d tone of a C-major scale 3: a graphic device for reproducing the letter e 4: one designated e esp. as the 5th in order or class; specif: the base of the system of natural logarithms having the approximate numerical value 2.71828 5 a: a grade rating a student's work as poor and usu. constituting a conditional pass b: a grade rating a student's work as failing c: one graded or rated with an E

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6: something shaped like the letter E

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**eagle** \ē-gəl\ *n* [ME *egle*, fr. OF *aigle*, fr. L *aquila*] (13c) 1: any of various large diurnal birds of prey of the accipiter family noted for their strength, size, gracefulness, keenness of vision, and powers of flight 2: any of various esp. emblematic or symbolic figures or representations of an eagle: as a: the standard of the ancient Romans b: the seal or standard of a nation (as the U.S.) having an eagle as emblem c: one of a pair of silver insignia of rank worn by a military colonel or a navy captain 3: a ten-dollar gold coin of the U.S. bearing an eagle on the reverse 4: a golf score of two strokes less than par on a hole — compare BIRDIE 5 cap [Fraternal Order of Eagles]: a member of a major fraternal order

**eagle eye** *n* (1802) 1: the ability to see or observe with exceptional keenness 2: one that sees or observes keenly

**eagle ray** *n* (ca. 1856): any of several widely distributed large active stingrays (family *Myliobatidae*) with broad pectoral fins like wings

**ea-plet** \ē-glet\ *n* (1572): a young eagle

**eal-dor-man** \al-dor-mən\ *n* [OE — more at ALDERMAN] (bef. 12c): the chief officer in a district (as a shire) in Anglo-Saxon England

**Eames Chair** \ēmz-ə\ *n* [Charles Eames †1978 Am. designer] (1950): a swivel armchair with a headrest and a matching ottoman having a molded wood frame and leather upholstery

**ean** — see AN

**ear** \ē-ə\ *n* [ME *ere*, fr. OE *ēare*; akin to OHG *ōra* ear, L *auris*, Gk *ous*] (bef. 12c) 1 a: the characteristic vertebrate organ of hearing and equilibrium consisting in the typical mammal of a sound-collecting outer ear separated by the tympanic membrane from a sound-transmitting middle ear that in turn is separated from a sensory inner ear by membranous fenestrae b: any of various organs capable of detecting vibratory motion 2 a: the external ear of man and most mammals b: a human earlobe (had her ~ pierced) 3 a: the sense or act of hearing b: acuity of hearing c: sensitivity to musical tone and pitch; also: the ability to retain and reproduce music that has been heard d: sensitivity to nuances of language esp. as revealed in the command of verbal melody and rhythm or in the ability to render a spoken idiom accurately 4: something resembling a mammalian ear

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